

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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INFO AMEMB BONN

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 4279

E.O. 11652: GDS 12/31/79

TAGS: MCAP, NATO, ML

SUBJECT: NATO SPECIALIZATION STUDY: LAND FORCES SUB-GROUP

REF USNATO 4177

1. AT SECOND MEETING SEPT 10, SUBJECT GROUP REVIEWED FIRST DRAFT OF REPORT TO STEERING GROUP ON POSSIBILITIES OF SPECIALIZATION IN THE CENTRAL REGION. PAPER WILL CONCENTRATE ON POSSIBILITY OF DUTCH NON-REPLACEMENT OF HONEST JOHN WITH LANCE.

2. WE ANTICIPATE THAT IN ABOUT TWO WEEKS WE WILL NEED ANSWERS
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TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS (OTHER COUNTRIES WILL BE ASKED SIMILAR QUESTIONS:

A. WOULD THE UNITED STATES BE WILLING TO MAN AND OPERATE

A LANCE BATTALION, AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE I NETHERLANDS CORPS, IF THE EQUIPMENT FOR THAT BATTALION WERE PROCURED BY THE NETHERLANDS AND IF THEY OFFERED A SUITABLE QUID PRO QUO?

B. WOULD THE UNITED STATES BE WILLING TO PROVIDE A COMPLETE LANCE BATTALION, PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT, IN LIEU OF A DUTCH BATTALION, IN SUPPORT OF THE I NETHERLANDS CORPS IF THEY OFFERED A SUITABLE QUID PRO QUO?

C. IF ANSWERS TO EITHER OF ABOVE QUESTIONS IS AFFIRMATIVE, WHAT QUID PRO QUO WOULD THE UNITED STATES ASK?

3. DUTCH REP DE JAGER DECLINED TO SPECIFY QUID PRO QUOS HE MIGHT HAVE IN MIND, SAYING SIMPLY MATTER COULD BE DETERMINED THROUGH BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS AND PROBABLY SHOULD BE AN ARMY UNIT OR UNITS OF SAME GENERAL TYPE, I.E., FIELD ARTILLERY. QUID COULD ALSO BE A COMBINATION OF A UNIT PLYS MONEY.

4. COMMENT: SUB-GROUP, INCLUDING THE DUTCH, CONTINUE TO WANT TO CONCLUDE THAT THE I NETHERLANDS CORPS NEEDS A LANCE BATTALION AND THAT IT SHOULD BE DUTCH, (SEE REFTTEL, ESPECIALLY PARA 4). PROBLEM IS TO COME UP WITH A PAPER CONVINCING TO THE DUTCH AUTHORITIES, THAT ALSO REFLECTS VIEWS OF ALLIES. END COMMENT.

5. NEXT MEETING SEPTEMBER 18.
RUMSFELD

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